

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 118825 TOSEC 010155

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00 PM-03 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 L-02 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00

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S/S:MR. MOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118825 TOSEC 010155

E.O. 11652:YGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PK, US

SUBJECT: REVISION OF BRIEFING PAPER FOR MEETING WITH
PAKISTANI MINISTER AZIZ AHMED

REF: NEW DELHI 6733; NEW DELHI 6734

1. LATEST ROUND OF SIMLA TALKS IN NEW DELHI ENDED INCON-
CLUSIVELY MAY 20 (NEW DELHI 6733 AND 6734 REPEATED TOSEC).
BRIEFING PAPER FOR SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH AZIZ AHMED
SHOULD BE REVISED TO REFLECT THIS FACT. WE ARE INCLINED
TO VIEW OUTCOME AS DISAPPOINTMENT BUT DOUBT THAT THIS
WILL PROVE TO BE SERIOUS SETBACK TO SIMLA PROCESS. AZIZ
AHMED MAY CHOOSE TO INTERPRET MATTERS MORE PESSIMISTICALLY,
BUT WE NOTE THAT THE TONE OF THE COMMUNIQUE WAS QUITE CON-
STRUCTIVE. THERE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A USEFUL HIGH-LEVEL
EXCHANGE ON FULL RANGE OF BILATERAL ISSUES, AND SOME
PROGRESS MAY HAVE BEEN REGISTERED ON THE PROBLEMS RAISED
BY PAKISTAN'S OBJECTIONS TO A PLANNED INDIAN DAM IN THE
INDUS BASIN AND ON IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EARLIER AGREEMENT
TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN PROPAGANDA.

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2. SUGGEST FOLLOWING REVISIONS IN BRIEFING PAPER:

QUOTE: CHECKLIST

-- SIMLA PROCESS - REITERATE USG STRONG SUPPORT FOR POLITICAL NORMALIZATION WITH INDIA DESPITE THE INCONCLUSIVE OUTCOME OF TALKS IN NEW DELHI ON CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS.

ISSUES/TALKING POINTS:

3. SIMLA PROCESS

PAKISTANI POSITION: DESPITE SOME SHARP ANTI-INDIAN PUBLIC RHETORIC, BHUTTO HAS KEPT SQUARELY ON THE SIMLA PATH. TALKS ON CIVIL AVIATION LINKS (SUSPENDED SINCE THE 1965 WAR) AND RESTORATION OF OVERFLIGHTS WERE RESUMED MAY 15 IN NEW DELHI AT THE FOREIGN SECRETARY LEVEL, BUT THE NEGOTIATORS FAILED TO REACH AGREEMENT AND ANNOUNCED THAT ANOTHER ROUND WOULD BE REQUIRED. THEY APPEAR, HOWEVER, TO HAVE REGISTERED SOME PROGRESS ON OTHER BILATERAL PROBLEMS, INCLUDING IMPLEMENTATION OF AN EARLIER AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL RESTRAINT IN PROPAGANDA AND PROCEDURES TO RESOLVE A DISPUTE OVER A PLANNED DAM IN THE INDUS BASIN.

U. S. POSITION: (UNCHANGED).

YOUR TALKING POINTS:

-- WE WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT THE RECENT TALKS IN NEW DELHI DID NOT YIELD FULL AGREEMENT ON CIVIL AVIATION MATTERS, BUT HOPE THIS WILL NOT PROVE A SERIOUS SETBACK TO THE SIMLA PROCESS.

-- WE CONTINUE TO ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO FURTHER PROGRESS IN NORMALIZATION BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND INDIA FOR GREATER REGIONAL STABILITY AND FOR PAKISTAN'S SECURITY.
UNQUOTE.

3. SUGGEST YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO CORRECT TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR ON PAGE 3. REFERENCE TO "A-8" AIRCRAFT SHOULD, OF COURSE, READ "A-7", REPEAT A-SEVEN. INGERSOLL

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COURSE, READ "A-7", REPEAT A-SEVEN. INGERSOLL

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